

in order to expedite moving the application toward issuance, formal drawings with the changes are enclosed. Enclosed are formal New Substitute drawing sheets 18 and 19 to replace the originally submitted correspondingly numbered sheets 18 and 19. Originally submitted drawing sheet 18 and 19 have part numbers 220 and 222 reversed in position on Figs. 29-32, the New Substitute sheets have no other changes other than swapping the positions of the numbers 220 and 222 relative to the Back and Forward buttons on Figs. 29-32. This correction to the drawing Figs. makes the numbering consistent with the specification and Figs. 26-28. No new matter has been added.

A letter to the Official Draftsperson is enclosed herewith regarding these drawing changes. Applicant would be deeply appreciative if the Examiner would be so kind as to make sure the enclosed corrected drawings get properly routed and are the ones used in the printed patent. Thank you.

Claims 1-28, as now amended or pending (changed, unchanged or presented for the first time) and henceforth simply referred to as claims, are all allowable over the prior art of record at least for the following reasons.

The primary prior art disclosures relied in the rejection of claim 1-7 upon in the first Office Action are Kim 5,910,798 in view of Thornburg 4,313,113; and further with Bertram et al 6,049,812 added in the rejection of claims 8-23.

In the Office Action it is stated that Kim teaches all of the claimed limitation with the "exception", then the exception is stated. The missing teaching in Kim (the exception) is directly at the heart, core or patentable moment of the present invention, and is thus very substantial in weight toward Kim suggesting little to nothing about the instant invention. The present invention is of course the combination of elements or features in each claim. The Office Action then applies Thornburg to Kim, yet Thornburg is simply a keyboard with an improved cursor moving arrangement, and therefore cannot be combined with

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Kim to suggest either a finger depressible mouse button for force varied screen scrolling rate sans required cursor movement as currently claimed in some of Applicant's claims. Kim and Thornburg, even in view of Bertram et al) also cannot be combined to suggest the Back and or Forward buttons on the mouse as currently claimed in some of Applicant's claims.

Kim is concerned with an improved arrangement of moving or steering a cursor from a mouse. Improved cursor movement is what is disclosed and claimed in Kim. Kim does not address screen scrolling with variable speed based on variable applied pressure by the user, nor does Kim address navigating to a previously visited network address via a button on a mouse. Kim is only basically concerned with an improved arrangement of finely moving or steering a cursor from a mouse.

Thornburg is concerned with an improved arrangement of moving or steering a cursor from a computer keyboard cursor control keypad. Improved cursor movement is what is disclosed and claimed in Thornburg.

Please note: A primary purpose of the current invention is to improve the computer mouse, the improvements are without moving or steering a cursor. Applicant believes this aspect is an important distinguishing factor between the present invention and the relied upon prior art of Kim and Thornburg. Kim and Thornburg address improvement of movement of a cursor. The present invention addresses improved control from a mouse as opposed to cursor movement. The present invention completely eliminates the need for cursor movement for moving Back and or Forward to previously visited network addresses, and the invention provides greatly improved user controlled screen scrolling from a mouse.

With the present invention, by eliminating the need to move the cursor for definite aspects such as moving Back and or Forward to previously visited network addresses, and by greatly improving scrolling control from a mouse which also eliminated cursor moving, a greatly improved and unanticipated mouse is

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provided worthy of patent grant. Such aspects of the present invention are not hinted at by either Kim alone, or Thornburg alone or combined with Kim, or further combined with Bertram et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,049,812).

Additionally, while Bertram et al does discuss a network browser software having a content window useful for navigation purposes with an active menu of Back and Forward, these Back and Forward software buttons require the moving of the cursor to place the cursor into the correct location (small active window) for selecting the function, and arrangement which is common to network browsers of all types and which as mentioned above requires the moving of the cursor.

Network software browsers of the type like Bertram et al have been around for years, for example, "Netscape" network navigating software and "Microsoft" network Explorer to name a couple, both of which include on-screen Back and Forward software buttons requiring cursor movement controlled by the user for proper placement. Many CAD software programs in the prior art have on-screen software buttons which when the cursor is aligned therewith by the user moving the cursor, the mouse standard select button can be pressed to instruct the software to make a "fine movement", see Kim. Kim mounted a plurality of buttons dedicated to moving the cursor a first distance or second distance, and arrangement which in effect is a fine cursor movement control arrangement for moving the cursor on-screen. The mounting of the buttons for this purpose on the mouse of Kim was correctly not viewed by Patent Examiner Richard Hjerpe as having been suggested by the mere presence of the software button on the screen (monitor, display) or by the fact the mouse of the prior art to Kim had either a ball or thumb-controlled joystick for cursor moving control. The placing of the buttons on the mouse in Kim was correctly judged to be not suggested by the prior art software on-screen buttons, mouse balls or joysticks, but rather, was judged by Examiner Hjerpe as an unanticipated, novel and useful advancement worthy of patent allowance.

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Likewise, the presence of on-screen software active windows for Back and Forward network travel as in Bertram et al when combined with Kim and Thornburg do not suggest the novel and inventive mouse of the present invention. The present invention with the highly useful and novel Back and or Forward buttons on the mouse as claimed is not hinted at by Kim combined with Thornburg and Bertram et al, likewise the combined three prior art disclosures do not suggest the highly advantageous arrangements of button depressible variable speed screen or window scrolling generally without regard to cursor location as claimed. The present invention is seen to be a substantial advancement in the field, not suggested by the prior art, and clearly worthy of patent grant, thus reexamination of the specification and claims, and allowance thereof is requested.

Additionally, again Applicant wishes to draw the Examiner's attention to the fact that three of the four applications of Applicant's listed in the Information Disclosure Statement originally submitted with the present application filing have been approved for issuance. The applications are: 1) "GAME CONTROLLER WITH ANALOG PRESSURE SENSOR(S)" filed Oct. 1, 1997, serial number 08/942,450; 2) "VARIABLE-CONDUCTANCE SENSOR" filed June 29, 1998, serial number 09/106,825 now U.S. Patent 5,999,084; and 3) "VARIABLE-CONDUCTANCE SENSOR WITH ELASTOMERIC DOME-CAP" filed on July 24, 1998, serial number 09/122,269.

The inventions of three above listed allowed or issued U.S. applications are related to the present claimed invention, and therefore Applicant is concerned about the issue of Double patenting between the present claims and those of my earlier disclosures. The Examiner is requested to review the three above listed patents and or applications of Applicant's for determining Double Patent and also for seeing what Applicant believes to be a clear indication of patentability of the present invention provided by Applicant's earlier allowed related application

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claims. Applicant is willing to submit a Terminal Disclaimer at any time it appears proper. Thank you.

Also, the present application is now Assigned to "ANASCAPE", the same Assignee of the other disclosures of Applicant's listed above. Therefore Applicant has attached a small entity declaration pertaining to small entity status of the Assignee.

Shortly prior to ANASCAPE entering into the conditional assignment with Applicant, ANASCAPE had a Patent Law firm perform or have performed additional searching of the prior art mainly for analog type sensors. Although it is not precisely understood by Applicant as to what fields or even what specifically was the target of the search, however, the search seems to have been performed on a database called Questel-Orbit QWEB, and appears to have produced 24 pages of printed information related to sensors. While I do not believe the search discloses prior art that is material to the patentability of the present invention as claimed, and the Examiner is invited to review the documents, I am nevertheless submitting the search results for placement in the application file in the interest of the fullest possible disclosure before the PTO. For placement in the application file are true copies of all 24 pages of the Questel-Orbit QWEB search results identified by the above specified database name being printed at the top left of each page as well as the page number to the right.

Also attached is a check for \$45.00 for five additional dependant claims above what was previously paid for in the filing and pre-examination amendment.

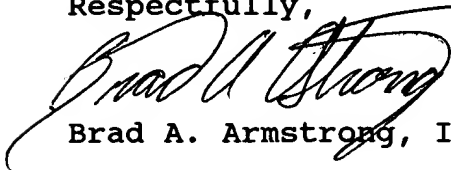
The prior art of record and not relied upon has been reviewed and is considered cumulative to other prior art of record, and not suggesting the present claimed invention.

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Applicant believes all of the claims 1-28 are allowable over the prior art of record, and requests the claims be held allowable. Thank you.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Respectfully,


Brad A. Armstrong, Inventor

Date:


6 July 2000

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

I hereby certify that this complete response to the 06/20/00 Office Action on Patent application No. 09/167,314 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS mail article # EK339489424US with sufficient postage pre-paid in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231, on this

date: July 6, 2000.

Signature:


Brad A. Armstrong, Inventor

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